

Remarks/Arguments begin on page seven of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (Cancelled)
- 1 2. (Cancelled)
- 1 3. (Previously Presented) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of
2 a patient, the device comprising:
 - 3 d) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
 - 4 e) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
5 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck and wherein the
6 second substrate defines an aperture with a reversible closure adapted to
7 receive a tracheal tube imbedded in the patient without contacting the
8 tracheal tube; and
 - 9 f) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
10 third substrate contacts the patient's chest.
- 1 7. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[2]] 3 wherein the first
2 substrate defines an aperture to facilitate access to the patient's cervical spine
3 area.
- 1 8. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[2]] 3 wherein the first
2 substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are integrally molded to
3 each other.

1 6. (Previously Presented) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of
2 a patient, the device comprising:

- 3 i) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
- 4 j) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
5 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
- 6 k) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
7 third substrate contacts the patient's chest; and
- 8 l) a fourth substrate adapted to contact the top of the head and removably
9 attached to the first substrate and the second substrate.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[2]] 3 wherein the first
2 substrate, the second substrate and the third substrate are transparent.

1 8. (Previously Presented) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of
2 a patient, the device comprising:

- 3 h) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head; wherein said
4 first substrate is in slidable communication with a pliable material adapted
5 to contact an occipital skull region of the patient;
- 6 i) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
7 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck; and
- 8 j) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
9 third substrate contacts the patient's chest.

1 9. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 3 further comprising A
2 device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device
3 comprising:

- 4 ~~k) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;~~
- 5 ~~l) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the~~

1 ~~second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;~~
2 ~~m) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the~~
3 ~~third substrate contacts the patient's chest; and~~
4 ~~n) an arcuate-shaped substrate in pivotal communication with said second~~
5 ~~substrate, whereby the arcuate-shaped substrate is adapted to receive~~
6 ~~the patient's chin.~~

1 10. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[2]] 3 wherein said first
2 substrate allows visual inspection of the patient's ears.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[2]] 3 wherein said third
2 substrate extends at least as low as the patient's second rib.

1 12. (Currently Amended) A device to immobilize the head, neck and upper torso of
2 a patient, the device comprising:

- 3 l) a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;
4 m) a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the
5 second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;
6 n) a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the
7 third substrate contacts the patient's chest; and
8 o) one or more means for removably securing the device to a backboard.

9 ~~The device as recited in claim 2 wherein the securing means comprises an elongated~~
10 ~~substrate having a first end attached to the first substrate of the device and a second~~
11 ~~end adapted to be removably fastened to the backboard.~~

1 13. (Original) The device as recited in claim 12 wherein the second end terminates
2 in a geometric shape that is matingly received by a surface supported by the
3 backboard.

1 14. (Original) The device as recited in claim 13 wherein the surface is removably
2 attached to the backboard.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim [[2]] 3 wherein at least one
2 substrate comprises cushioning materials.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 3 ~~A device to immobilize the~~
2 ~~head, neck and upper torso of a patient, the device comprising:~~
3 ~~— c) — a first substrate for supporting the back of the patient's head;~~
4 ~~— d) — a second substrate in communication with the first substrate, whereby the~~
5 ~~second substrate is adapted to encircle the patient's neck;~~
6 ~~— e) — a third substrate in communication with the second substrate, whereby the~~
7 ~~third substrate contacts the patient's chest;~~
8 wherein at least one substrate comprises one or more tubes.

1 17. (Original) The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines
2 an angle with respect to the second substrate and wherein the device further
3 comprises means to adjust said angle.

1 18. (Original) The device as recited in claim 9 wherein said arcuate substrate defines
2 a distance with respect to the first substrate and wherein the device further
3 comprises means to adjust said distance.

1 19. (Cancelled)

1 20. (Currently Amended) ~~The device as recited in claim 19~~ A device for
2 simultaneously immobilizing a person's skull, cervical vertebrae, and mandible,
3 the device comprising:

- 4 a) a first substrate which extends from an occipital region of the skull to the
5 first thoracic vertebrae of the person;
6 b) a second substrate communicating with the first substrate and extending
7 in a direction anterior to the person, whereby the second substrate
8 encircles the neck of the person and wherein the second substrate
9 defines an aperture having a removable continuous periphery[.];
10 c) a means for immobilizing the first and second substrates to a backboard.

1 21. (New) The device as recited in claim 3 further comprising one or more means for
2 removably securing the device to a backboard.

1 22. (New) The device as recited in claim 21 wherein the securing means comprises
2 an elongated substrate having a first end attached to the first substrate of the
3 device and a second end adapted to be removably fastened to the backboard.